

# City Manager's Weekly Report

September 2, 2022



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony—2022 HomeArama at ChimneyRidge

#### Administration

On September 1, representatives from City Hall and LPD joined Mayor Bailey and Councilmembers, Neal Oury and Kip Ping, for the ribbon cutting ceremony to kickoff the 2022 Homearama at ChimneyRidge. Special thanks to Marketing and Communications Coordinator, Krista Rose and Permit Specialist, Becky Noel, for all of their hard work in coordinating the city's efforts for the home show.





The show will run Sept. 3-18. Show hours Monday-Thursday are 4-9 p.m. Show hours Friday, Saturday, and Sunday are 12-9 p.m. On weekends only, a free shuttle bus will be available from 220 & 227 E. Loveland Ave. (former site of the Masonic Lodge & East Loveland Nature Preserve). Discounted tickets will be offered some days, including Hometown Heroes Day (Sept. 4) and Loveland Residents Day (Sept 9). Click here to read about the ribbon cutting, plus an overview of theme days, tickets, parking, etc.

The city will have an information booth during the show. The booth will be staffed by employees, City Council members, and committee volunteers. At the booth, we will answer questions about the city and pass out promotional material for the city's LovinLifeLoveland.com and LovelandOH.gov websites.

Directional signage for the event have been placed throughout the city, including traffic signage along State Route 48 approaching Butterworth Road and "No Event Parking" signs in the subdivisions near ChimneyRidge. LPD will provide security and traffic control during the event, assisted by the Hamilton Township Police Department at State Route 48 and Butterworth.

Preparing for this event required an enormous amount of time from our staff and I appreciate the time and effort our Public Works, LPD, and LSFD staff have given to this event. The project and grounds are beautiful and we celebrate the efforts of the builders to make this event a reality and look forward to welcoming Homearama guests to the city.

Assistant City Manager Cory Wright and I met with a representative from the Genesee-Wyoming Rail Road (GWRR) to discuss upgrades to the at-grade rail crossings located along West Loveland Avenue and Second Street (State Route 48). City officials and railroad representatives discussed the addition of new pavement, drainage improvements, and concrete walkway to replace the deteriorated asphalt and rubber crossing materials currently installed at these two locations. The city will continue to work with GWRR to ascertain cost, scope, and schedule for these much-needed improvements. The finished installation will result in an enhanced appearance and greater functionality for vehicular and rail traffic. We appreciate the opportunity to build upon a strong partnership with GWRR.

The city held two bid openings for projects related to the Chestnut Street Brownfield Remediation project. Representatives from Patriot Engineering accompanied staff at the bid openings. A total of six bids were received for the lead soil remediation and site clean up activities. City administration is working to obtain clarification from the Ohio Department of Development Grant administration team to ensure that full clearing and grading can be accomplished under the present scope of the agreement. This clarification will assist the city in determining the lowest and best bid awardee. With respect to the Groundwater Remediation Project, only one bid was received, which was rejected due to being incomplete. The city will readvertise this project for bid shortly with the hopes of obtaining additional complete bids for this important environmental remediation work. Based on the foregoing, the city will commence site clean up activities once the

bid award has been made, and once the required 404 Permit is received from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Assistant City Manager Wright met with the property owner at 501 Loveland Madeira Road and Patriot Engineering to complete pre-acquisition environmental testing and due diligence on the property in conjunction with the city's now executed purchase agreement. Once the Phase 1 report is completed and evaluated, the city can proceed through the next steps of the site acquisition process. This property will provide key access to the Chestnut Street Property and will accommodate and enhance future redevelopment efforts.

The Veterans Memorial Committee met and continued their discussion on the Veteran Banner Program. The banners would be placed on utility poles along SR48, from the five points intersection, up Paxton Avenue, to the Loveland-Maimiville/SR48 intersection at St. Columban Church and school. Assistant City Manager Cory Wright and Public Works Maintenance Worker Rob Hayden identified the utility poles for the banners. The next step is obtaining permits from Duke Energy for the use of their poles.

### **Building and Zoning**

At Blossom Hill, exterior finish work is underway, sod has been installed, and the project continues. Unit 118 is receiving drywall finishing since the insulation inspection was passed, and framing work is well underway on Building #2. Notable, two units are already sold in each of the two buildings under construction, with another unit pre-sold in a building yet to be constructed!

Here are some additional highlights from the Building and Zoning Department's activities during this past week:

- Staff completed reviews and memorandums for the upcoming Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, to be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 7:00 PM.
- At the Second Street townhome project, the two remaining units under construction have been sold, and work will continue to finish these units off for occupancy.
- Windows were installed at Quilter's Studio, and interior fit and finish work continues. Remaining exterior work includes stucco, trim, and one large window still on order.
- At the Public Works Building, work has commenced on the sanitary connection for the new structure, and other plumbing work will be installed shortly after the completion of this important component.
- Premier Pain continues to make progress on their expansion project located along Mattee Drive within the Loveland Commerce Park.

Property Maintenance and code enforcement efforts continue on a proactive basis. Work continues at Lowell Street regarding a long-standing property maintenance concern with significant progress being made there. Staff is working to contact a property owner along East Kemper Road to discuss an issue with the accumulation of junk and debris. The goal of this outreach will be to schedule a joint inspection with the Health Department and LSFD to determine the scope and extent of violations present on the property. The department is also reviewing a potential unauthorized use along North Riverside Drive, as well as other reported complaints regarding lighting and glare along Loveland Madeira Road.

The Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 7:00 PM to consider two cases:

- 1. Initiation of a Zoning Text Amendment to Chapter 1156, "Table of Permitted Uses"
- 2. Site Plan Review for a planned Community Center annex at St. Columban Church and School

# Public Works

City Engineer, Cindy Klopfenstein, submitted an application for a \$50,000 grant to the OEPA for a funding opportunity discovered by Water Treatment Plant Superintendent, Ricky Gregory. If funded, the grant will aid with costs to conduct system-wide water service line inventory and GIS mapping.

## Public Safety

Fire Chief, Otto Huber, was proud to announce that the Loveland-Symmes Fire Department has been awarded <u>another</u> grant for emergency equipment and training. The grant amount of \$202,500 will fund, Paramedic Training, Heart Monitors for Ladder Trucks and Thermal Imaging Cameras.

LPD posted the open Assistant Chief of Police position and began a new hiring process for patrol officers. Officer Wright began the recruiting campaign by visiting two local police academies, contacting 45 cadets to share the comradery, benefits package, and community support of LPD.

The Civil Service Commission met to approve the eligibility list for the Police Operations Assistant position. The city anticipates offering the position to one of the candidates in the upcoming weeks.

### **Public Relations**

Marketing & Communications Coordinator Krista Rose completed <u>a behind-the-scenes</u> <u>video about the new Public Works facility</u>. We hope this gives residents a glimpse into the storage capabilities the new facility will feature. When construction is complete, we hope to film another video and plan for a community open house.

This week, Krista assisted LPD and Human Resources Manager Joy Deardorff with current job postings: <u>Assistant Police Chief</u> and <u>Police Officer</u>. Krista also sent the monthly "Upcoming Events" email to the city's subscriber list. You can view <u>here</u>. If you would like to subscribe to the city's email list, please click <u>here</u>.

# **Upcoming Meetings & Events**

Whistle Stop Clayworks is hosting their annual Pottery Affaire on Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Planning and Zoning Department will meet on Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

The Law and Ordinance Committee will meet on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.